

(a) whether a conference on Electronics and telecommunications in India by 2000 A.D. was organised in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the objectives of the said conference;

(c) whether some apprehensions about the potential of electronics and telecommunications have been felt in the conference;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to take steps to remove such apprehensions for smooth development in these fields in future;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Capital foundation society (regd.) a private organisation organised a national conference on telecommunications in Indian-2000 in November, 1991 in Delhi. According to the letter of the organiser addressed to the Department of Electronics the objective of the said conference was to deliberate on issues of national importance to articulate public opinion and help policy formulation.

(c) to (g) There was a view that radical changes in the customs and excise duty structure was needed to give a much needed fillip to the electronics and telecommunication industry.

Government are constantly reviewing the requirements of different industries including electronics and telecommunication

and the tariff for the different items are also modified from time to time after an appreciation of all factors.

Prices of Vitamin "A" In Kerala

4493. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has requested to enhance the price of Vitamin "A" manufactured in the Kerala State Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.;

(b) whether the State Government has also requested to withdraw the import duty of the raw materials required for the manufacture of vitamin "A" in Kerala State Drugs and Pharmaceuticals, Alleppey; and

(c) if so, the action taken on these requests so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). No, Sir. This Ministry has not received such requests from the Government of Kerala.

(c) Does not arise.

Polio Vaccine

4494. SHRI. PRADHANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether polio vaccine is being produced in the country;

(b) if so, whether the quantity of the vaccine produced is adequate to meet the demand of the country; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to increase the indigenous production of polio vaccine?